(a) whether the proposal of Expressways has been mooted to facilitate speedy and smooth of goods and traffic along the important commercial routes;

(b) if so, modalities for construction of Expressways, norms/guidelines laid down for such construction;

(c) what are the proposals received in respect thereof; and

(d) the proposals which are meant for Punjab and progress with regard to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) Government is actively considering construction of expressways to facilitate speedy and smooth flow of goods and passenger traffic. However, on account of meagre allocation of funds, it has been decided to invite private sector to construct expressways on Build-OpertateTransfer basis. Preliminary identification of routes has been done and now feasibility of the routes will need to be studied. An advertisement has been published for carrying out feasibility study of identified "Super National Highway" i.e. expressway routes. The proposals likely to be taken up will depend upon the results of the feasibility study. It is, therefore, too early to indicate any progress thereon.

Relations with Myanmar

1618. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has reviewed its policy towards Myanmar after the release of Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India proposes to construct roads on both sides of Indo-Burman Border to check insurgency in the NorthEast;

(d) whether India would obtain support of the Myanmarese army to fight insugency in North-East;

(e) the steps taken to resume economic aid to Myanmar as a good neighbourly gesture; and

(f) the steps taken to encourage more Burmese students to study in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) India continues its efforts to maintain stable, tension-free and cordial relations with Myanmar. We have welcomed the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

(c) Proposals for construction of roads to develop the areas on both sides of the Indo-Myanmar border are under consideration of the Govenment, as this would facilitate land border trade.

(d) India has sought Government of Myanmar's cooperation in countering insurgency along our borders in the north-east. The Government's response has been positive.

(e) Government of India continues to provide training to Myanmar candidates in various fields under ITEC.

(f) We have provided facilities to join various courses both technical and vocational, to Burmese students in India.

पाकिस्तान द्वारा अन्य देशों से प्राप्त किये गये हथियार

1619. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह:** क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पाकिस्तान ने विगत कुछ दिनों में अन्य देशों से अनेक मिसाइल और सामरिक महत्व के हथियार प्राप्त किये हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या भारत सरकार ने उन देशों को कोई विरोध पत्र भेजा है; और

(ग) इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सलमान खुर्शीद): (क) पाकिस्तान द्वारा विभिन्न देश स्रोतों से प्रक्षेपास्त्र और अन्य अत्याधुनिक हथियार तथा प्रौद्योगिकी प्राप्त करने के बारे में सरकार को जानकारी है।

(ख) और (ग) सरकार संबंधित देशों के साथ अपने द्विपक्षीय विचार-विमर्श के दौरान पाकिस्तान द्वारा प्राप्त अत्याधुनिक हथियारों जिनमें प्रक्षेपास्त्र भी शामिल हैं, के संबंध में अपने विचारों से उन्हें अवगत कराती रही है।